WO 2004/037743 PCT/IE2003/000147

-18-

## **ABSTRACT**

A method of using wastewater sludge in the production of concrete comprising mixing cement, aggregate and wastewater sludge to form a concrete mix in which the additional step is carried out of mixing the wastewater sludge with an alkaline solution to achieve a wastewater sludge and alkaline solution mixture having a pH equal to or in excess of 11.5 prior to mixing with the aggregate and cement. Such a method is a simple and efficient method of producing ready usable concrete and will not require expensive sterilisation steps such as heat or radiation treatment. The wastewater sludge is disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner and will not undergo incineration or have to be dumped at sea or landfill.